Interview Summary

A proposed amendment was discussed that included incorporating the dependent claims with a specifically claimed Markush group of linking molecules into the independent claim in order to possibly gain allowance. The examiner has not agreed that this would necessarily aid in arriving at allowable subject matter in the instant case. Applicant pointed to page 10 of specification as discussing why the shorter chain linking molecule has an advantage over other linking molecule.

The Examiner proposed that if a structural and functional distinctions can be drawn between the instant invention and the art of record that applicant could possibly patentably distinguish the instant invention from the prior art. No specific agreement was reached.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL MILLER whose telephone number is (571)272-1534. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on (571)272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number: 10/554,593 Page 3

Art Unit: 1794

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. Lawrence Tarazano/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1794 /Daniel Miller/ Examiner, Art Unit 1794